

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING (except Sunday) and every Sunday morning at The Journal Building, Fifth and Yamhill streets, Portland, Or.

They are never alone that are accompanied with double thoughts.—Sir Philip Sydney.

A MOST DASTARDLY CRIME.

NO LANGUAGE is strong enough properly to characterize the dastardly assassination of ex-Sheriff Harvey K. Brown of Baker City. No effort or expense should be spared to bring the perpetrators of this horrible crime to justice.

The beautiful representative system, with the masses of the people utterly powerless, either positively or negatively, is in vogue in the New England states, and in New York, and in California; look at their senators.

There is not even a representative government in California, only the mere form of it. One man governs the state, selects all important officers, sends his tools to congress, in almost as much an absolute dictator of public affairs as a czar.

It is difficult to comprehend the fiendish depravity of those who planned and consummated the assassination of such a man, making his wife a heart-broken widow and his children orphans.

A "REVOLUTIONARY" MOVEMENT. THE LOS ANGELES Times views recent legislation, and the direct legislation movement, in Oregon, with alarm, pity and reprobation.

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revolutionary departure from the theory of a representative, Republican government to the theory of a "pure democracy," very well; the name is nothing if the thing is right.

The people of Oregon found, and those of other states have found, too, that the representative system, with no strings in the people's hands attached to it, is a failure, a delusion, a fraud.

And then the youth of Oregon, and their parents, should have enough state pride to depend on state colleges for the desired higher education.

But notwithstanding the invocation of the referendum on the university appropriation, it starts out well, and we believe the people will rally to its support next June.

Lately the Pendleton Tribune has used columns of space to show that a choice of a senator by the people was unconstitutional, and that the legislature must actually "choose" in the fall.

There are now shaping so that the prospects look better than ever before for the thorough testing of the oil and gas fields in this section, says the Ontario Democrat.

Every part of Harney valley where there is a chance of a rich yield is reported in any line of agriculture.

There are by actual count 167 store buildings and residences today under construction in Medford, says the Tribune and there is a demand for even more.

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would be all that it is claimed he would be; only saying that nobody knows or can assert that he would be. While his career has been entirely creditable, it points to no sure conclusion in this respect.

Again the boy with a gun, a rifle. He is 16 years old. His younger sister would not immediately obey his command, so he fired, and she will be blind for life, if she lives.

OREGON STATE COLLEGES. THE ATTENDANCE at both the University of Oregon and the Agricultural college is larger than ever before, as it should be, and indicates a prosperous year for both those institutions.

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project, causing an undoubted large loss not only to themselves but to others. With this action on the part of the rest of the depositors success will be in sight.

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Small Change. The Infanta Bullito isn't as young as her name indicates.

Will the Memphis convention please decide the question whether the Mississippi runs up hill?

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ASSESSOR'S REDUCED TAXES

Habit of Lowering Assessments Not Confined to Sheriff's Office.

VERBAL COMPLAINT ONLY WAS NECESSARY.

Tax Rolls Changed Even After Board of Equalization Had Passed on Them—Formality of Affidavit Not Required.

That the practice of reducing assessments after the board of equalization has passed on the rolls is not confined to Sheriff Stevens and his deputies, as shown by a number of affidavits from Assessor Sigler's office on file in the sheriff's office.

After the tax rolls have been equalized, the assessor has authority to reduce the assessed valuation of any property, though Sheriff Stevens has taken the power in a number of instances, acting on affidavits which were not sworn to.

A number of affidavits sworn to before Assessor Sigler's deputies reducing assessments, are found on Sheriff Stevens' records. Though the deputy assessors have no authority to reduce assessments, the law requires that the person objecting must have been assessed with property he does not own, or that the assessment is too high.

One of the affidavits from the assessor's office is as follows: "I, Mrs. E. Griffin, being of legal age, do hereby certify that I am the owner of a certain lot of land in the city of Portland, Oregon, and that the same is assessed to me for the year 1907 at the sum of \$100.00, which is an excessive assessment, and that the same should be assessed to me for the year 1907 at the sum of \$50.00."

The assessment was reduced to \$50, not because Mrs. Griffin did not own half of the property assessed against her, but because she believed the tax too high. Attorney Sigler says that such a reduction is clearly illegal. A large number of them have been made by the sheriff, and about a dozen by the assessor.

All the reductions of assessments made by the assessor in violation of the law were made during the month of July, August and September of this year. In 1906, assessments, Sheriff Stevens' shortcomings as to tax reductions began as early as March of this year. He has reduced assessments in the habit of the assessor.

In no case did reductions made by the assessor in violation of the law exceed more than \$1,000, while Sheriff Stevens cut out from \$10,000 to \$15,000, another from \$20,000 to \$12,000, and still another from \$51,000 to \$45,000. Following are some of the reductions made by Assessor Sigler's deputies:

J. W. Nathan, assessment reduced from \$150 to \$100; Mrs. A. Troutner, from \$300 to \$250; Neil Nelson, from \$350 to \$300; E. J. Gallagher, from \$500 to \$450; B. E. Bluff, from \$200 to \$150; E. J. Griffin, from \$400 to \$300; Mrs. Alice A. Zandt, from \$200 to \$150; Mrs. C. E. Clamson, from \$225 to \$150; Mrs. G. Constable, from \$100 to \$50.

AT THE THEATRES. "Prince of Pilsen" Tomorrow. Seats are selling at box office the Hellig theatre, Fourteenth and Washington streets, to Henry W. Savag's comedy, "The Prince of Pilsen." Three nights beginning Thursday. Special price matinee Saturday.

Musical Play at Hellig Tonight. The attraction at the Hellig theatre, Fourteenth and Washington streets, to Henry W. Savag's comedy, "The Prince of Pilsen." Three nights beginning Thursday. Special price matinee Saturday.

Seal Sale for Mr. Faverham. The advance seat sale will open next Friday, October 4, for William Faverham's comedy at the Hellig theatre at all next week, beginning Sunday, October 6, in "The Squaw Man."

"The Girl with the Green Eyes." This delightfully fascinating, absorbing melodrama is now playing at the Baker company, this week, Miss Barney in the complicated role of Miss Annie, the jealous wife, who causes all the trouble, is greatly increasing her already strong popularity in Portland.

MAKE THE MOST OF OUR WAYS

President Roosevelt Addresses Great Throng at St. Louis on Rivers and Their Importance, Panama Canal and Its Benefits—Why Battleships Coming to West.

(United Press Special Wire.) St. Louis, Oct. 2.—Not since the Louisiana Purchase exposition has St. Louis entertained such vast crowds as assembled today to greet President Roosevelt.

Governors, senators, congressmen, farmers, merchants, laborers, millionaires, professional men, rubbed elbows in the vast throng that lined the river front when the president arrived. Despite the enthusiasm of the welcome to the chief executive, the great object of the demonstration, not forgotten, and every vessel carried an immense banner with the words: "Fourteen Feet Through the Valley."

"While great numbers of the Herd Deep Through Dixie." Through precautions were taken for the safety of the president during his stay in St. Louis. In addition to the usual detail of secret service men who accompanied President Roosevelt on all his travels, a dozen cavalrymen acted as a body guard on the trip from the hotel to the river front.

After reviewing the great naval assembly, President Roosevelt will be accompanied to all his former haunts in the Mississippi valley. He will be accompanied to all his former haunts in the Mississippi valley. He will be accompanied to all his former haunts in the Mississippi valley.

The president was introduced and warmly greeted by those who heard his speech. The president said: "I feel a great pleasure to address this body of citizens of Missouri here in the great city of St. Louis. I have often visited St. Louis, and I am glad to see it again."

"I believe that the nation has the whole governmental power over interstate commerce in its hands. It is a power which has been used in the past for the benefit of the people, but it is a power which has been used in the past for the benefit of the people."

"The American people will not tolerate a happy-go-lucky system of no control over the interstate commerce. They will not tolerate a system of no control over the interstate commerce. They will not tolerate a system of no control over the interstate commerce."

"From every standpoint it is desirable for the nation to join in improving the greatest system of river highways within its borders. A system of river highways is a system of river highways. A system of river highways is a system of river highways."

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